

To: R6Press[R6Press@epa.gov]
From: Hubbard, Joseph
Sent: Tue 8/1/2017 4:25:44 PM
Subject: Daily News Digest, Tuesday, Aug 1
[Daily News Digest 08012017.pdf](#)

1 — San Antonio given another year to get air pollution under threshold set by EPA, KSAT, 7/31/2017

<https://www.ksat.com/weather/environment/san-antonio-given-another-year-to-get-air-pollution-under-threshold-set-by-epa>

The Environmental Protection Agency has extended its deadline in order for San Antonio to improve its air quality. In 2018, San Antonio could potentially receive non-attainment status from the government, should ozone levels not drop. For that reason, a campaign is underway by the Alamo Area Council of Governments to improve air quality. Also standing with AACOG is Krystal Henagan, who heads up the Texas chapter of the Moms Clean Air Force in Texas. According to Henagan, her asthmatic son suffers on days when pollution is high.

2 West Texas groundwater site added to federal Superfund list, News 10, 7/31/2017

<http://www.newschannel10.com/story/36012683/west-texas-groundwater-site-added-to-federal-superfund-list>

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has given a West Texas site a federal Superfund designation marking it as one of the most hazardous waste sites in the country. The EPA said in a statement Monday that a portion of the Santa Rosa Aquifer in Kermit has been added to the Superfund program's National Priorities List. The aquifer in the city west of Odessa has a contaminated groundwater plume a mile long and 1.5 miles wide.

3 — EPA: Louisiana Creosote Site Should Go on Superfund List, US News, 7/31/2017

<https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/louisiana/articles/2017-07-31/epa-louisiana-creosote-site-should-go-on-superfund-list>

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says a Louisiana site contaminated with creosote should be added to the Superfund list of the nation's most contaminated sites. The American Creosote site is south of DeRidder in Beauregard Parish. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality says it was a timber treatment operation for the first half of the 20th century.

4 — Louisiana's Cancer Alley Residents Sue Chemical Plant for Nearly 50 Years of Air Pollution, Truth Out, 8/1/2017

<http://www.truth-out.org/news/item/41453-louisiana-s-cancer-alley-residents-sue-chemical-plant-for-nearly-50-years-of-air-pollution>

If you drive along one of the main streets in Louisiana's St. John the Baptist Parish, you may encounter a large sign warning about chloroprene in the air. These signs let people know that chemical emissions from the nearby DuPont facility, now owned by Denka, can greatly increase the risk of cancer for those who live around it.

5 — New St. John water plant expected to bring cleaner water to Pleasure Bend residents, NOLA Advocate, 7/31/2017

http://www.theadvocate.com/new_orleans/news/environment/article_3ad6b81c-7633-11e7-a008-6bcf1780c74d.html

St. John the Baptist Parish is moving ahead with plans for a treatment plant intended to bring more reliable drinking water to some of the parish's rural residents. The Parish Council has authorized Parish President Natalie Robottom to open bids for construction of the facility in Pleasure Bend, an unincorporated area with about 250 residents at last count. Right now, the area gets its water from St. James Parish under an arrangement that will end after the new plant opens.

6 EPA: Oklahoma property among nation's most contaminated, San Fran Chron, 7/31/2017

<http://www.sfchronicle.com/news/article/EPA-Oklahoma-property-among-nation-s-most-11720718.php>

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is proposing to add a property in central Oklahoma to the Superfund program's list of most contaminated sites. The EPA announced Monday its intent to add Eagle Industries in the Oklahoma City suburb of Midwest City to the National Priorities List, which identifies sites that threaten the public health and environment. The Eagle Industries property was an inspection and repair facility for fire extinguisher systems used on aircrafts.

7— Editorial: Citizens should welcome EPA changes, Oklahoman, 8/1/17

<http://newsok.com/article/5558350>

ONE sign former Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt is making much-needed change as head of the Environmental Protection Agency is the level of hysteria he inspires from the radical left. Consider a recent Rolling Stone article claiming Pruitt had “alienated” EPA bureaucrats by discussing “the importance of civility and how ‘regulators exist to give certainty to those that they regulate.’” Supposedly, this left EPA hacks routinely “crying at their desks.”

8 — Court tells EPA to enforce Obama methane pollution rule, Hill, 7/31/17

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/344705-court-tells-epa-to-enforce-obama-methane-pollution-rule>

A federal court told the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Monday that it has to enforce an Obama administration methane pollution rule. The order from Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit came after the judges gave the agency a two-week reprieve from its ruling earlier in July that the EPA broke the law when it tried to delay enforcement earlier.

9 — Environmental groups sue government over vehicle emissions, Seattle Times, 7/31/17

<http://www.seattletimes.com/nation-world/environmental-groups-sue-government-over-vehicle-emissions/>

Environmental groups that say they’re seeking to restore clean air standards for vehicles on the nation’s highways have sued the federal government in New York. The Natural Resources Defense Council, the U.S. Public Interest Research Group and Clean Air Carolina sued the Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration on Monday, saying a federal safeguard meant to reduce climate-changing emissions was abruptly withdrawn in May.

10 OPINION: Voluntary nutrient pollution cuts are failing to shrink algae blooms, dead zones, Times Picayune, 7/31/17

http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2017/08/voluntary_steps_on_nutrient_po.html#incart_river_index

Summer is the season for harmful algae blooms in many U.S. lakes and bays. They occur when water bodies become overloaded with nitrogen and phosphorus from farms, water treatment plants and other sources. Warm water and lots of nutrients promote rapid growth of algae that can be toxic and potentially fatal to aquatic life and people.

11 — Money sought to extend 9,000-foot rock jetty in Lake Pontchartrain: report, Times Picayune, 8/1/17

http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2017/08/tangipahoa_parish_seeks_fundin.html#incart_river_index

Tangipahoa Parish officials say a 9,000 foot rock jetty along the shoreline of Lake Pontchartrain is rebuilding coastal marsh. Happy with the results, officials want to extend the jetty by 5,500 feet, the Hammond Daily Star reported.

The parish will seek \$3 to \$4 million from the state's Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority for the project. The parish plans to contribute \$400,000 of its own funds toward extending the jetty.

12 — Earth set to warm 2 degrees Celsius by end of century, studies say, Times Picayune, 7/31/17

http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2017/07/earth_set_to_warm_2_degrees_ce.html#incart_river_index

The earth's temperature could rise to more than 2 degrees Celsius, or 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit by the end of the century. CNN reports that two different studies in the journal, Nature Climate Change, came to the conclusion on the rise in global temperature using two completely different methods.

13 Judge denies ExxonMobil request to reduce \$20 million air pollution fine, Texas Tribune, 7/31/17

<https://www.texastribune.org/2017/07/31/judge-denies-exxonmobil-request-reduce-20-million-air-pollution-fine/>

U.S. District Judge David Hittner slapped the the energy giant with a \$19.95 million penalty in April for spewing millions of pounds of hazardous pollutants from a Houston-area industrial complex.

14 Court allows EPA 2-month freeze in Ark. haze suit, Greenwire, 7/31/2017

<https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/2017/07/31/stories/1060058154>

A federal appellate court has granted U.S. EPA's request for a two-month hold on litigation surrounding a haze reduction plan for Arkansas, but with a warning that it will not look favorably on future delays. The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals issued the two-sentence ruling this morning, a week after EPA — allied with power producers and Arkansas Attorney General

Leslie Rutledge (R) — sought the freeze in hopes of letting settlement talks advance (Greenwire, July 25).

15 EPA proposes adding old timber treatment site near DeRidder to Superfund list, Advocate, 7/31/2017

http://www.theadvocate.com/baton_rouge/news/environment/article_70d4ec7e-7604-11e7-8629-57ce7605763e.html

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on Monday proposed adding a site near DeRidder in Beauregard Parish to the Superfund list. The area was once used to treat timber with creosote preservatives. Creosote, which is also used as a pesticide, has been linked to skin blistering, eye burning, stomach pains, and damage to the liver and kidneys, according to the federal Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

16 Why some are worried Baton Rouge's post-flood rebuilding process will come back to haunt city-parish, Advocate, 7/31/2017

http://www.theadvocate.com/baton_rouge/news/environment/article_fe2b7886-6268-11e7-8840-cbb2430f98ac.html

As reconstruction began after the August floods, one of the most pressing tasks was determining which property owners, under federal flood insurance program rules, would have to elevate damaged homes. After the flood, FEMA quickly sent in assessment teams that estimated the number of homes "substantially damaged." In Baton Rouge and the unincorporated parts of the parish, FEMA counted approximately 3,250 such properties.

17 PSO wants quick approval from Oklahoma regulators on \$4.5 billion wind, transmission project, Oklahoman, 7/1/2017

<http://newsok.com/psa-wants-quick-approval-from-oklahoma-regulators-on-4.5-billion-wind-transmission-project/article/5558392>

A \$4.5 billion wind farm and transmission line announced last week by Public Service Co. of Oklahoma and a sister utility needs a quick answer from Oklahoma regulators so the project can fully qualify for federal tax credits for renewable energy.

18 Residents sue Formosa for polluting bays, Advocate, 7/31/17

<https://www.victoriaadvocate.com/news/2017/jul/31/residents-sue-formosa-for-polluting-bays/>

Residents sued Formosa on Monday to force it to comply with the Clean Water Act. They say Formosa is discharging plastic into waterways and it has been found in fish guts.